Nov. 9(?) 1834

Dear Anna —

As Helen has made me promise not to read her part of this letter, I know not what she has written; but I presume she has expressed much regret on learning from Mr. Anthony, (who gratified us with a visit on Friday,) that it is probable you and Sarah will not be able to come to Freedom's Cottage under two or three weeks. In the midst of our disappointment, however, it is highly exhilarating to our spirits to think that you will come; for the time-honored adage, "Better late than never," applies in this instance with peculiar propriety. Of course, we are impatient to see you, and therefore deprecate delay; but still, you are coming, and this is pleasure indeed.

It seems to me as if I did nothing but neglect you all, and then make apologies. Why do I purpose to do so much, and yet accomplish so little? When I took my dear Helen from your household, I was bound, by all filial and brotherly ties, to make at least the petty compensation of sending to some one of you one letter a week. This was my intention — but have I fulfilled it? Well — forgive my remissness, inasmuch as you need no assurance that it has not arisen from any want of interest or affection.

I am truly happy in my new situation, and not less so because Helen expresses so much happiness herself. What is usually called "the honey-moon," is, I suppose, past with us, so far as a certain space of time is concerned, but our love is as pure as ever, and even more fervent. I have no fears that I shall ever have occasion to regret my choice; and I trust "my better half" will never need to repent of hers.

Have we not had a beautiful autumn? Winter is approaching with a milder aspect than usual, and, although he is not so beautiful as his predecessor, yet he is by no means an unwelcome guest to me.

Assure all the family of my unabated love, and believe me to be Ever yours, Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

53

PAID Single. — Paid.

Miss Anna E. Benson

Brooklyn

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